

Washington, DC—Today, Congressman Steve Israel (D-Huntington) unveiled a cutting-edge website to better serve the needs of his constituents in New York's Second district. The website features new electronic methods that Long Islanders can utilize to stay in touch with the Congressman and request services his office offers such as casework assistance and Washington tours. The website also allows viewers to watch Congressman Israel speak on the House floor, read his blog, sign up for e-newsletter updates, review his votes on pending legislation in Congress and RSVP to town halls and other events hosted on Long Island.

"As the Congressional schedule intensifies in Washington, it's more important than ever that I hear from my constituents as to how I can best serve them" said Congressman Israel. "My new website brings Washington to Long Island and I hope that my constituents will use it to find out what I'm doing in Congress and what I can do for them. I continually strive to improve visitors' experience and hope that Long Islanders will use the website to request assistance from my office, read my blog, sign up for the e-newsletter, and keep track of the votes I'm casting and the speeches I'm giving on the House floor."

In February, the Congressional Management Foundation awarded Congressman Israel with the "Silver Mouse Award" for the "A" grade his former website received in their new report. The study can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/24cehn>. The web study evaluated 615 House and Senate websites in terms of five points: audience, content, usability, interactivity, and innovation. Only 85 sites received awards for top grades, 18 Gold (A-plus), 27 Silver (A) and 40 Bronze (A-minus). The study was conducted by the Congressional Management Foundation with a grant from the National Science Foundation in conjunction with researchers from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, the University of California-Riverside, and Ohio State University.

Congressman Israel's newly-launched website builds upon the strengths of his former website while incorporating new electronic features. It can be found at www.house.gov/israel.